

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

POL 14 VIETS

(739)

CONFIDENTIAL

44
Action

Info

NNNNVZCZCMJB87SJIA407
NR RUEHC
DE RUMJIR 1245 1981320
ZNY CCCCC
R 171255Z JUL 67
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO RUMTEK/AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
RUMJFS/AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
RUHHHQA/CINCPAC POLAD
STATE GRNC
BT

CONFIDENTIAL SAIGON 1245

LIMDIS

REF: SAIGON 1163

1. ON JULY 16 MEMBERS OF FIVE OF ELEVEN PRESIDENTIAL SLATES AGAINST WHOM COMPLAINTS HAVE BEEN FILED TOOK TURNS DEFENDING THEIR CASES BEFORE CLOSED SESSION OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY'S SPECIAL COMMITTEE. FIVE WERE: LY DAI NGUYEN, LUU QUANG HONG, TRUONG DINH DZU, PHAM HUY CO, AND TRAN VAN THOAN.

2. MORNING JULY 17 SPECIAL COMMITTEE HEARD TESTIMONY OF GENERAL MINH'S RUNNING-MATE TRAN NGOC LIENG. LIENG REPORTEDLY CONCEDED THAT HE HAD BEEN GRANTED FRENCH

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"METROPOLITAN STATUS" IN 1950, THUS ACQUIRING CERTAIN PRIVILEGES NOT AVAILABLE TO MOST VIETNAMESE, BUT, HE APPARENTLY ARGUED THAT HE HAD NEVER ACQUIRED FRENCH NATIONALITY.

3. DURING MORNING SESSION, SPECIAL COMMITTEE ALSO HEARD TRAN THUONG NHON PRESENT HIS CASE TO EFFECT THAT HE SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ELIMINATED FOR INSUFFICIENT DOCUMENTATION PRIOR TO ASSEMBLY'S FIRST POSTING OF PRESIDENTIAL SLATES JULY 1.

4. AFTERNOON AND EVENING JULY 17, SPECIAL COMMITTEE ALSO SCHEDULED TO HEAR TESTIMONY OF NGUYEN VAN LOC ON BEHALF OF THIEU/KY SLATE, VU KHONG KHANH, AU TRUONG THANH AND NGUYEN DINH QUAT. COMMITTEE WILL PREPARE ITS REPORT NIGHT OF JULY 17 FOR PRESENTATION TO NA AT ITS JULY 18 PLENARY SESSION. BUNKER
BT

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03:15:00:00:00

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEWED BY *John Smith* *12 JUL 67*
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